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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
EXTENSION SERVICE
Washington 25, D. C.

A HOW LEADERS HELP 4-H MEMBERS LEARN AT MEETINGS
For Use at 4-H Leader Meetings and Workshops

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STEPS IN TEACHING

HOW I CAN USE THIS IDEA

I. TALK OVER THE REASONS WHY:

"To teach boys and girls the value
of research, and to develop in them
a scientific attitude toward the
problems of the farm and the home."

a. 4-H members will do their club
work better when they understand
Why.

b. Discuss Why the project is
important, how helpful it is,
in the war effort.

c. Give them the reasons Why it
is important to them to do the
job as shown, or to use a
certain method.

II. SHOW THEM HOW:

"To teach boys and girls and to
demonstrate methods designed to
improve practices in agriculture
and homemaking, to the end that
farm incomes may be increased,
standards of living improved, and
the satisfactions of farm life
enhanced."

a. Show them step by step how to
do the work.

b. Explain each step as you go
along.

c. Point out the things that will
make the work easier to do, or
will give a better result.

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III. HAVE THEM TAKE PART -- BE SURE
THEY KNOW:

"To train boys and girls in co-
operative action to the end that
they may increase their accomp-
lishments and, through associated
efforts, better assist in solving
rural problems."

- a. Have the members do the work for
you to watch.
- b. Ask them to explain each step.
- c. Correct their mistakes.
- d. Be sure they know how to do the
work at home.

IV. BE READY TO HELP:

"To provide boys and girls an op-
portunity to learn by doing through
conducting certain farm and home
enterprises, and demonstrating to
others what they have learned."

- a. 4-H members should know that
they are on their own, but that
someone is close by to help them
when they are stuck.
- b. Keep in touch with what they are
doing.
- c. Help parents understand that
they can help the member learn
how, but that the member should
do the work.

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V. HELP MEMBERS IMPROVE THEIR WORK:

"To help boys and girls develop desirable ideals and standards of farming, homemaking, community life, and citizenship, and a sense of responsibility for their attainment."

Sometimes 4-H members' work looks as though it is being done carelessly.

Sometimes materials are not properly used, or apparently the member does not follow instructions or is not taking care of the project at home.

- a. Show by your attitude that you are sincerely interested in helping.
- b. Size up the facts
 1. Did the member choose the right project?
 2. Are parents giving full support? Are his best friends proud of his efforts?
 3. Is the project equal to member's age, ability? Does it challenge him?
 4. Does he understand what 4-H Club Work stands for? Then use tact.
- c. Be ready to accept some share of the responsibility - "If the member hasn't learned - the leader hasn't taught."
 1. Are meetings interesting to him?
 2. Does the member understand they Why and How of good work; what it means -- to him -- to his club?
- d. Make suggestions to the member on how he can improve, in a way that does not make the member feel "dumb" or belittle him.
- e. Correct the mistakes calmly without anger, with a patient and tactful attitude. Assume the member wants to do his best, is intelligent and ambitious. Praise his good efforts. Appeal to his pride in good workmanship.

